

Public Hearing Notice – Environmental Permit

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: To seek public comment and announce a public hearing on a proposed permit from the State Water Control Board (Board) that will allow the filling of wetlands in Hanover County, Virginia.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: October 20, 2020 to December 4, 2020

PURPOSE OF HEARING: To obtain input from the public related to this project for the Board to consider.

PUBLIC HEARING DATE AND TIME: November 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

INFORMATION BRIEFING DATE AND TIME: November 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

To address protective measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, an electronic public hearing and briefing will be held via GoToWebinar teleconferencing service and in compliance with Item 4-0.01 g of Chapter 1289 of the 2020 Acts of Assembly. If any changes to the meeting are made, they will be published on the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website no later than 3 days prior to the meeting.

GoToWebinar Meeting Registration Instructions: To attend and/or speak at the public hearing being held via electronic communications, you must register, provide the required information, and follow instructions on ways to join the public hearing. Participants can join the meeting starting at 5:45 p.m.

To register, please go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6183251383668053520> or copy and paste the address to your web browser.

or

On the date and time of the hearing, access the website <https://www.gotomeeting.com/webinar>, click “Join” and then enter Webinar ID 732-439-275. For audio, it is recommended that you call in to the webinar.

If joining from a mobile device, it is recommended you download the app prior to the meeting.

If you prefer to attend the meeting by telephone without internet access and do not plan to speak, contact Jaime Robb at Jaime.Robb@deq.virginia.gov or 804-527-5086 to obtain a telephone number.

PERMIT NAME: Virginia Water Protection Permit issued by the Board

APPLICANT NAME, ADDRESS AND PERMIT NUMBER: Wegmans Food Markets, Inc.; Attn: Douglas Viets; 1500 Brooks Avenue, P.O. Box 30844, Rochester, NY 14603-0844; VWPP No. 19-2036

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Wegmans Food Markets, Inc. has applied for a new permit for the Wegmans Distribution Center. The project site is located south of Ashcake Road (Route 657), northwest of Sliding Hill Road (Route 656), and east of Egypt Road (Route 741) in Hanover County, Virginia. The permit will allow the applicant to fill a surface water wetland to construct a regional grocery distribution center. The proposed activity would affect 14.43 acres of palustrine forested wetland, 0.26 acre of palustrine emergent wetland, and 0.16 acre of jurisdictional ditch. The activity proposed in the permit will affect wetlands that drain to Totopotomoy Creek, Kersey Creek, and Campbell Creek in the Pamunkey River watershed. A watershed is the land area drained by a river and its incoming streams. To compensate for the affected area, the applicant would provide compensation for permanent impacts to wetlands authorized by this permit through the purchase of 29.41 wetland mitigation bank credits from a mitigation bank in the same or adjacent watershed. If sufficient wetland mitigation bank credits are not available, the permit

allows the permittee to purchase credits from an in-lieu-fee fund. DEQ's preliminary decision is to recommend issuance of the permit. Final action on the permit will be taken by the Board, at a regular or special meeting, after the close of the public comment period. The draft permit for the project has been revised to increase surface water impacts as a result of revisions to the jurisdictional determination for the proposed site and incorporate monitoring for secondary impacts to surface waters. Any comment submitted during the previous comment periods are considered part of the public comment file, and it is not necessary to offer the same comment again. Copies of the proposed permit, fact sheet, and application materials are available on DEQ's website at: www.deq.virginia.gov/wegmans.

ISSUES RAISED BY PUBLIC: During previous public comment periods, comments received included: improper wetland delineation resulting in fewer surface waters identified onsite; inadequate analysis of secondary impacts from the proposed project; inaccurate compensatory mitigation requirements; insufficient off-site alternatives analysis; increased flooding from the project; environmental justice concerns; and location of historic resources onsite.

HOW TO COMMENT: The Board accepts written comments by hand-delivery, e-mail or postal mail. All comments must be in writing and be received by DEQ during the comment period; hand-delivery and postal are due by close of business and e-mail comments are due by 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the comment period. The Board also accepts oral comments at public hearings. To make a statement at a public hearing being held via electronic communications, follow the instructions above to join the public hearing and those provided during the electronic meeting. The time allowed for each statement is set by the hearing officer at the beginning of the public hearing. Written comments must include: 1) The names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers of the person commenting and of all people represented by the citizen. 2) A brief, informal statement on how the proposal affects the citizen. The public may request the draft permit and application by contacting the individual below.

CONTACT FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS, DOCUMENT REQUESTS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Name: Jaime Robb; Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality, Piedmont Regional Office, 4949-A Cox Road, Glen Allen, Virginia, 23060; Tel: (804) 527-5086; Jaime.Robb@deq.virginia.gov;